

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 01644 301304Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 ARA-10 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ACDA-07
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R 301217Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9577

INFO OAU CONFERENCE COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1644

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, OAU

SUBJ: CHAD ENTERS FORMAL COMPLAINT TO OAU ON LIBYAN
AGGRESSION

REF: NDJAMENA 2098

SUMMARY: CHADIANS HAVE FORMALLY CHARGED LIBYA WITH AG-
GRESSION IN NORTHERN CHAD. QUESTION EXPECTED BE ADDED TO
SUMMIT AGENDA. END SUMMARY.

1. CHAD'S FOREIGN MINISTER NADEL ABDEL KADIR KANOUGE RAISED
FORMAL COMPLAINT IN JUNE 29 OAU CM PLENARY CLAIMING LIBYAN
AGGRESSION AND VIOLATION OF OAU CHARTER. DURING PRESS
CONFERENCE THAT EVENING, MINISTER STATED CHAD OBLIGED TO
PLACE MATTER OF LIBYAN AGGRESSION AND OCCUPATION OF
117,000 SQUARE KILOMETER AOZOUZOU STRIP BEFORE OAU BECAUSE
OF LIBYAN FAILURE TO RESPOND TO CHAD'S COMPLAINTS. HE
ALSO SCORED AN UNNAMED WORLD POWER FOR PROVIDING ARMS
USED IN AREA WITH CLEAN IMPLICATION THAT SOVIETS IN-
TENDED.

2. LIBYANS, WHO HAD BEEN PACING HALL OUTSIDE PRESS ROOM,
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PAGE 02 LIBREV 01644 301304Z

IMMEDIATELY CALLED COUNTER PRESS CONFERENCE. HEAD OF
LIBYAN DELEGATION, UNPERMREP MONSOUR KIKHIA:

(A) REFERRED TO CHAD'S RAISING OF SUBJECT AS "REGRET-
TABLE INCIDENT," (B) SCORED CHADIANS FOR CALLING IM-
MEDIATE PRESS CONFERENCE SINCE ENTIRE MATTER COULD
HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED QUIETLY AND PRIVATELY HERE, (C)
CHARACTERIZED CHARGES AS PART OF IMPERIALIST CAMPAIGN

TO VILIFY LIBYA AS SPONSOR OF INTERNATIONAL
TERRORISM AND TO DESTROY UNITY OF CONFERENCE;
AND (D) CLAIMED CHAD LOOKING FOR EXTERNAL SCAPEGOAT
FOR ITS INTERNAL PROBLEMS.

3. KIKHIA ASSERTED THAT AOZOU STRIP IS PART OF
LIBYA AND THAT ONLY EARLY WEAKNESS OF LIBYAN REGIME
HAD PREVENTED ITS OCCUPATION UNTIL 1973. HE STATED
OCCUPATION IS ALSO RESULT OF 1971-72 MERCENARY ATTACKS
AGAINST LIBYA FROM AREA. IN ANY EVENT, HE SAID,
QUESTION AT HAND WAS ONLY BORDER DISPUTE WHICH COULD
NOT RPT NOT BE CHARACTERIZED AS AGGRESSION.

4. ALLEGING THAT CHAD GOVERNMENT HAD NO CONTROL WHAT-
SOEVER OVER NORTHERN AREAS AND THAT OPEN REBELLION
EXISTED IN MANY PARTS OF COUNTRY, KIKHIA CLAIMED THAT GOC
WISHED LIBYANS TO HELP CRUSH ITS NORTHERN REVOLT.
HE STATED LIBYA HAD GOOD RELATIONS WITH BROTHERLY
PEOPLE OF CHAD, HAD NO INTENTION TO INTERFERE IN
CHAD'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS, AND IMPLIED LIBYA WOULD
TAKE NO STEPS AGAINST REBELS IN NORTHERN CHAD.

5. LIBYAN SPOKESMAN STATED STRONG POSSIBILITY EXISTS
THAT QADHAFI WILL COME TO SUMMIT TO ANSWER CHARGES.

6. COMMENT: CHADIAN CHARGE APPEARS ALMOST CERTAIN TO
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PAGE 03 LIBREV 01644 301304Z

BE REFERRED TO SUMMIT, ALTHOUGH EXACT WORDING OF
ESOLUTION AS YET UNDECIDED. STEIGMAN

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Message Attributes

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